

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 05095 302135Z

ACTION MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DEAE-00 SNM-02 PER-01 ABF-01
/017 W

-----013951 010240Z /65

R 302115Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6034

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: AODE, SNAR, BL

SUBJECT: MODE - DEA STAFFING

REF: STATE 149301

1. STAFFING LEVEL FOR DEA CONTEMPLATED IN PARM (LA PAZ 1280) AND IN AMBASSADOR STEDMAN'S MODE OVERVIEW OF NOVEMBER 1976 (LA PAZ 8771) WAS SIX U.S. STAFF AND I WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THIS LEVEL. HOWEVER, THOSE MESSAGES REFERRED TO THE ADDITION OF TWO AGENTS (AN AGENT AND AN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER) TO PRESENT DEA COMPLEMENT. WE CONSIDER THAT STEPPED-UP NARCOTICS PROGRAM AND, IN PARTICULAR, GOAL OF UNCOVERING MAJOR TRAFFICKERS, REQUIRES THESE NEW OFFICER POSITIONS.

2. PROBLEM OF CLERICAL HELP FOR DEA STAFF HAS COME UP ONLY RECENTLY. IT HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY EVIDENT THAT THE ONE U.S. SECRETARY NOW ASSIGNED WILL BE UNABLE TO COPE WITH WORKLOAD OF FIVE OFFICERS, AND IS, IN FACT, HAVING DIFFICULTY KEEPING UP WITH THREE OFFICERS CURRENTLY IN LA PAZ.

3. I RECOMMEND THAT EFFECTIVE STAFFING LEVEL HERE FOR DEA SHOULD BE SEVEN; FIVE AGENTS (INCLUDING ONE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER) AND TWO U.S. CLERICAL ASSISTANTS. IT IS MY UNDER-

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STANDING THAT AMBASSADOR STEDMAN HAD DISCUSSED THIS STAFFING LEVEL WITH DEA AND OTHERS DURING HIS CONSULTATION IN WASHINGTON IN APRIL AND THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON THE LEVEL OF SEVEN. WE HAVE ALREADY BEEN INFORMED OF THE ARRIVAL OF TWO AGENTS (DEPT'S A-2455 OF JUNE 9, 1977) AND DEA HERE HAS BEEN PLANNING TO REQUEST AN ADDITIONAL DEA-TRAINED CLERK-STENO.

4. PLEASE CLARIFY REFTTEL AND ADVISE IF THERE IS A MISUNDER-
STANDING ON OUR PART. IN ANY CASE MY RECOMMENDATION IS FOR
A LEVEL OF SEVEN.
BEAL

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Message Attributes

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